First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

"Follow Me"

http://www.timeanddate.com/holidays/mexico/ascension-day

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

April 19, 2015 10:00 am

Third Sunday of Easter

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP & LIFE TOGETHER: We invite you to participate in this community of faith. If you are a visitor for the first time, please fill out the welcome pad being passed around. We invite you to join us for Friendship Time (refreshments and conversation) at the conclusion of worship.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN so that they may come to understand the worship experience. Families are encouraged to talk about the parts of worship so children may understand and participate. During the worship service we have a time for children with the minister on the rug in the center of the worship space followed by Sunday school (September-May).

Hymns are found in the following books:
NCH *(Black, hardcover "New Century Hymnal")*
Sing! *(Black, softcover, "Sing! Prayer and Praise" songbook)*
ES *(Green, softcover "Everflowing Streams" songbook)*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Invitation

All people are welcome to participate in this community of faith
If you have questions about becoming a member of this church, please speak with the Pastor or any member of the Community.

Prelude Steve McGhee

***Gathering Hymn** **"By Whatever Name We Call You"** **560 NCH** - Steve McGhee

Welcome Wayne Burling

Guests, please complete a Visitor Card and place in the offering plate so we may have a record of your visit.
We hope you will join us for Friendship Time and refreshments after the service.

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

Please rise in body or spirit as you are able

Announcements Wayne Burling

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Ringing the Bell

***Hymn** **"Lord, You Are Welcome"** **31 SING**

Focusing Prayer (Unison) Wayne Burling

Your love, God, is my song and I'll sing it! I'm forever telling everyone how faithful you are. I'll never quit telling everyone how faithful you are. I'll never quit telling the story of your love – how you built the cosmos and guaranteed everything in it. Your love has always been our lives foundation, your fidelity has been the roof over our world. Amen. – Psalms 89:1-3

Anthem **"Be Not Afraid"** FCC Choir

LISTENING FOR GOD

Old Testament Reading Psalms 4 Wayne Burling

Hymn **"Jesus Loves Me"** **327 NCH**

Children's Time *children are invited to come forward* Carol Hall

New Testament Reading 1 John 3:1-7 Carol Hall

Reflection **"Who is Holy?"** Carol Hall

***Hymn** **"Cristo Vive! (Christ Is Living)"** **235 NCH**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

Prayers of the People Carol Hall

All are invited to offer a prayer, testimony, praise report or prayer request at this time. Please limit your sharing to one or two sentences and remember confidentiality issues.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Unison) -- Alternate Version Carol Hall

When we say the Lord's Prayer, please feel free to follow the traditional form or use language that feels comfortable to you, e.g. Mother, Creator, God, Friend, or Realm, Kindom, Wisdom.

Offering this prayer in unison brings us together and the words illustrate our common journey

Prayer of Sending Forth - "I Believe"

I believe in the equality of all, rich and poor.
I believe in liberty.
I believe in humanity, and that through it
we can create unity.
I believe in the love within each of us,
and in the home, happy and healthy.
I believe in the forgiveness of our sins.
I believe that with divine help we will have the strength
to establish equality in society.
I believe in unity,
the only way to achieve peace, and
I believe that together we can obtain justice.
- Prayer of an Ayacucho Youth Group, Peru from *Let Justice Roll Down*

RESPONDING TO OUR CALLING

Invitation to the Offering (Unison) Wayne Burling

All good gifts around us come from you, O God. You have given us life, and new life in Christ. As you have given us gifts, so we offer our gifts that we may be gifts to one another, even as Jesus so taught and lived. Amen. – NCH 844

Offertory Steve McGhee

***Doxology** **"Take My Gifts"** **562 NCH**

Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter, Gave me life and set me free,
Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
Now the bread of love is rising, Loaves of love to multiply!

Prayer of Dedication *(Unison) Wayne Burling

My spirit is one with you, Great Spirit.

You strengthen me day and night to share my very best with my brothers and sisters. You, whom my people see in all of creation in all people, show your love for us. Help me to know, like the soaring eagle, the heights of knowledge. From the Four Directions, fill me with the four virtues of fortitude, generosity, respect and wisdom; so that I will help my people walk in the path of understanding and peace. – Lakota Prayer, NCH 852

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

***Hymn of Departure** **"Because You Live, O Christ"** **231 NCH**

***Benediction** Carol Hall

Postlude Steve McGhee

(Please be seated for the Postlude)

Passing the Peace *Share a greeting with your neighbor as we transition to our snack.*

First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413
218 North Adams Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198
734-482-6980
website: ***www.ypsiucc.com***

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God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Our Volunteers	Today: April 19th	Next Sunday: April 26th
Usher	Jamie Goldsmith	Orin Brustad
Preaching	Carol Hall	David Forsberg
Worship Leader	Wayne Burling	Donna Eyster
Worship Set-up	Wayne Burling	Donna Eyster
Acolyte	Jamie Goldsmith	Lyle Molter
Friendship Time	Margaret Harner	Glenda Horvath
Sunday School	Tad Wysor	Anne Marie N-T

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH OUTDOOR CLEAN-UP: We will be doing outdoor clean-up on May 9th at 10:00 am till ???. Donna Eyster is heading the event, so contact her for more information.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING: Our next Council meeting will be held May 4th at 4:30 pm. All are welcome.

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION: We will be meeting at 10:00 am till 12:00 at Bethlehem UCC in Ann Arbor. We will have an agenda soon.

CHOIR REHEARSALS: Choir rehearsal this week will be Tuesday at 6:30 PM Come, join the fun and try it out. We have a great time. Don't need to read music or have trained voice.

PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES: If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Glenda Horvath, 734-904-0420

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: Kindly remember in your prayers our members and friends who are sick and/or shut-in. Send a card or note to lift their spirits and yours as well.

Fran Pebbles' address: *American Homes Carpenter, 3470 Carpenter Rd., Apt 332, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Phone: 734-975-0987*

Sally Dusbiber's *address'*: *Silver Maples of Chelsea, Room 1211, 100 Silver Maples Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118. Sally's direct phone line is 734-433-2396 and the Silver Maples line is 734-475-4111, x217.*

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY (WICIR): For information about what's happening with Immigrant Rights and ***Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights*,** or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Margaret Harner at 734-483-3464 or through their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/WICIR .

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION: For information about what's happening with **Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition,** or if you are interested in joining us, please contact Wayne Burling at 734-377-0696. More information can be found on their website http://www.mi-ona.org or on facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/onami/

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION: "First Congregational is a co-founding institution of the new local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition).** In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. The diverse faith congregations and labor and community organizations that make up WeROC are, at our core, focused on intentionally reweaving the frayed fabric of community -- at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated and on our own. We are showing by example that people from many backgrounds and perspectives can, even today, come together in powerful ways around our common values and *actually change* unjust public policies. WeROC is a part of the S.E. Michigan organization MOSES and the national Gamaliel Foundation.
See Tad Wysor (tadwysor@gmail.com, 734 883 3225) for more on how First Congregational is connecting with current WeROC issues and actions.

OUR WEBSITE: http://www.ypsiucc.org Let Wayne know if you have any additional items to be added. He could use lots more pictures. Also check out and like our Facebook page. https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Congregational-United-Church-of-Christ-Ypsilanti/115695119913 .

KROGER FUNDRAISER: **HAVE YOU *RE-REGISTERED* WITH KROGER!!** Everybody that shops at Kroger and has a shopper's card ***MUST*** register. ***Last Year's registration expires May 1st*** and you are not getting credit for you purchases until you re-register for the current year.

Go to www.kroger.com and click "**REGISTER**". Follow prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the **Community Rewards** site and register with our church. Our number is **83263**, or you can find our name in drop down list. Any questions contact Barbara Garland, bargarland@yahoo.com, 734-662-5803.